

## SharpSmart Information

**For the SharpSmart location  
nearest you,  
please call this number:  
401 725-7800**

Rhode Island has the first statewide needle disposal project in the United States. A partnership was created by the Diabetes Foundation of Rhode Island, Inc., Stericycle Inc., Rhode Island Resource Recovery Corp., The Champlin Foundations, Rhode Island Department of Health and the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management to achieve our common goal of providing a safe and healthy environment for all Rhode Islanders.

**Never throw LOOSE needles or Sharps in the  
SharpSmart receptacle.  
Throw away the full container.**

**Be sure to ask for replacement Sharps  
containers at the SharpSmart site near you.  
(Containers are available from  
the pharmacist or Fire/Police Station)**

## Special Thanks



**Champlin Foundations**



**Rhode Island Resource Recovery Corporation**  
[www.riirc.org](http://www.riirc.org)



**Stericycle**  
[www.Stericycle.com](http://www.Stericycle.com)



**Rhode Island Department of Health**  
[www.health.state.ri.us](http://www.health.state.ri.us)



**Rhode Island Department  
of Environmental Management**  
[www.state.ri.us/dem](http://www.state.ri.us/dem)



**DIABETES  
FOUNDATION  
OF RHODE ISLAND, INC.**

[www.dfrii.org](http://www.dfrii.org)

**Diabetes Foundation of Rhode Island, Inc.**

### **Mission Statement**

*Partnering with the Community to offer hope, education and support to individuals and families affected by diabetes and to significantly improve their quality of life until a cure is found.*

**Diabetes Foundation of Rhode Island, Inc.**

209 Cottage Street, Pawtucket, RI 02860

401 725-7800

fax 401 725-8833

**Call for updated locations.**



*This SharpSmart brochure was printed on recycled paper and is recyclable.*

**The Nation's First  
Statewide Residential  
Needle Disposal Program**

# SHARP SMART™



**A Program of the  
Diabetes Foundation of  
Rhode Island, Inc.**

# Why SharpSmart?

Sharps are needles and lancets that you use at home to inject yourself, your child or your pet with medicine. Needles that are not thrown away properly are dangerous because used needles sometimes injure innocent people. SharpSmart is a program that provides small household containers, called Sharps containers, to hold your needles and lancets, and collection receptacles located throughout Rhode Island for you to safely throw away your full Sharps containers. Please read this brochure to learn how to safely dispose of your needles and lancets — called Sharps. Be SharpSmart!

## The SharpSmart Program was developed to:

- Help you properly dispose of your needles and lancets.
- Provide an environmentally safe option for disposing of Sharps.
- Prevent injury to humans and animals.
- Keep Sharps out of household trash and recycling bins.
- Provide the public with more collection sites for home-generated needles and lancets.
- Prevent the spread of infectious diseases.
- Remove used needles from circulation and prevent the sharing of needles.

It is important to remember that Sharps are only a problem when they are not handled properly.

# SharpSmart Ideas

## If you want to make sure that you are disposing of your Sharps the right way, follow these simple rules:

- **DO** use a container that is puncture resistant and is not see-through.

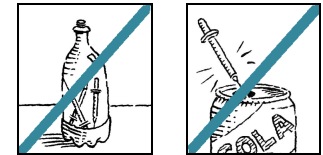
1 gallon bleach or liquid detergent bottle

sealed, taped coffee can

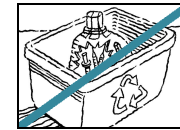


**Sharps container**  
**PREFERRED CONTAINER**

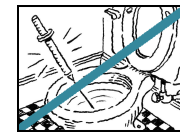
- **DO** keep containers in areas that are child and animal proof.
- **DON'T** put Sharps in soda cans or bottles, juice bottles, glass containers or milk cartons.



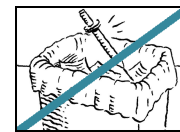
- **DON'T** put Sharps containers in your recycling bin.



- **DON'T** flush needles or lancets down the toilet. (Sharps that are flushed down the toilet may end up on our beaches and riverbanks.)



- **DON'T** throw loose needles or lancets into the recycling bin, trash or SharpSmart receptacle.



- **DON'T** empty the Sharps container into the SharpSmart receptacle. Throw away the full container.